GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:264
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
TELEDENSITY IN BIHAR
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the teledensity in Bihar at the end of year 2002;

(b) the national average of teledensity;

(c) the number of applicants in the waiting list for telephone connections in Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi and Vaishali districts of Bihar as on January 31, 2002;

(d) By when telephone connections are likely to be given to the applicants in the above three districts; and

(e) the schemes and programmes of the Government to bring teledensity in Bihar at a par with national average?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRIMATI SU MAHAJAN)

(a) The teledensity in Bihar at the end of year 2002 is 1.23.

(b) The national average of teledensity at the end of year 2002 is 4.79.

(c) & (d): The number of applicants in the waiting list for telephone connections in Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi and Vaishali Districts of Bihar as on 31.1.2002 is as given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of District	Waiting List
1.	Muzaffarpur	2403
2.	Sitamarhi	3851
3.	Vaishali	5647

The waitlisted applicants are expected to be given telephone connections by December, 2003 by BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.)

(e) The Growth of Telephone Lines in Bihar is being planned at a much higher rate than the average growth rate of the BSNL network subject to the availability of demand and resources.